

[18th October 1927]

Government Order regarding minimum qualifications for public service.

* 514 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the reasons for issuing a notification in last November making persons who had taken up commercial subjects as optionals in the School Final course ineligible for public service;

(b) why the Government have issued orders to the effect that the services of such men holding acting appointments should be dispensed with, when they have not had one year's continuous service prior to 16th November 1926;

(c) whether the number of students taking up commercial subjects has decreased as the result of this action; and

(d) whether the Government propose to remove the ban thus placed on commercial students and encourage commercial training?

A.—(a) No notification to the effect stated was issued.

(b) The Government is not aware that orders of the kind suggested were issued. Clerks who do not satisfy the standard laid down in G.O. No. 965, Public, dated 16th November 1926, and who had not on 16th November 1926 one year's continuous or two years' total satisfactory service under Government are ineligible for retention without the sanction of Government.

(c) The Government have no information.

(d) The orders issued by Government do not place a ban on commercial subjects.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Board's Proceedings No. 5929 of 22nd November 1926 lays down that persons who have taken up commercial subjects as their optionals in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate course are not eligible for service in the Revenue Department?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"The hon. Member is under some misapprehension. Amongst the subjects which are chosen to make a man eligible for public service the commercial subjects do not find a place. That does not mean that a person is debarred from taking commercial subjects as optional subjects."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"May I know if the Government are aware that in effect in the districts this particular Government Order is construed as though the Government Order particularly debarred the persons with commercial subjects as their optionals?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"I cannot help it."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU:—"May I therefore request the Leader of the House to make it more clear so that people may not misunderstand? I can assure him that it is so in my district and several other districts. So as to make it more clear I hope he will be pleased to issue a circular explaining the views of the Government as given in the supplementary answers."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS:—"The instruction is perfectly clear and I think the hon. Member still does not understand it. A man may have taken commercial subjects as his optionals; but if he does

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not have the other subjects mentioned in the notification he is not eligible for Government service. Merely having these commercial subjects does not debar him but will not serve the purpose."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" But the difficulty is this. It was prescribed in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate course and those who took the commercial subjects alone were considered eligible and even now it is so. This particular Government Order bars them from being taken into public service even though they are eligible. This particular Government Order stands in the way."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is arguing the point."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Because these subjects are not included in the notification the difficulty arises."

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" If a member has not got the prescribed subjects but has got other subjects, he will not be eligible for service."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" Will this have a retrospective effect ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" There again it is a question of what is meant by retrospective effect. The rule is not applied to permanent appointments made before its date. The Government have also said that it should not be applied in the case of those who have put in one year of continuous or two years of total acting or temporary service. That is to alleviate the effect of the change of rule."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know if this is final and whether it would disable, under answer to question No. 516, any revision of the Government Order ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The matter is under reconsideration whether eligibility for the University course should also be considered. No decision has been come to."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" When for the eligibility for intermediate course passing in commercial subjects is admitted, will not the Government consider that in respect of appointments also ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" The hon. Member is going to the intermediate stage. I must ask for notice."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" With reference to clause (c), will the Government be pleased to call for the information and find out whether the number of students taking up commercial subjects has decreased and why it has so decreased ?"

The hon. Mr. N. E. MARJORIBANKS :—" I do not propose to make such a reference. If it has decreased, it is not a matter relevant to the present subject as these subjects are not prescribed as qualifications for Government service."